

ELECTROSURGICAL APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR TREATMENT & REMOVAL OF TISSUE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and methods for ablating, severing, cutting, shrinking, coagulating, or
5 otherwise modifying a target tissue to be treated. In a method for treating a target tissue,
an active electrode of an electrosurgical probe is positioned in at least close proximity to
the target tissue in the presence of an electrically conductive fluid. A high frequency
voltage is then applied between the active electrode and a return electrode, wherein, the
high frequency voltage is sufficient to volumetrically remove (ablate), sever, or modify at
10 least a portion of the target tissue. The probe comprises a multi-lumen shaft having a
plurality of internal lumens, and a return electrode coil oriented substantially parallel to the
shaft distal end. The active electrode may be in the form of a metal disc, a hook, or an
active electrode coil. In the latter embodiment, the active electrode coil is typically
arranged substantially orthogonal to the return electrode coil. Methods of making an
15 active electrode coil, a return electrode coil, and an electrosurgical probe are also
disclosed.